



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

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DONALD T. DIFRANCESCO
Acting Governor

GEORGE T. DIFERDINANDO, JR., MD, MPH
Acting Commissioner

MICU ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

September 10, 2001

Minutes

Dr. Nevins called the meeting to order at 10:10.

Minutes for the June meeting were approved.

HCFA Update - Dr. Nevins

The HCFA EMS Coalition is supporting US Senate Bill 1350. This recalculates the Relative Value Unit (RVU) based on "full cost provider." Susan Way has been invited to join the coalition.

Future Planning - Dr. Brennan

Mr. Ron Czajkowski from New Jersey Hospital Association made a presentation of the revised "A Full House" hospital diversion guidelines. Draft copies of the revision were available and Mr. Czajkowski asked for input from the EMS/MICU community. He can be reached by email at rczajkow@njha.com.

RSI - Dr. Waxler

A thank you was extended to everyone who participated in the development of the program. The train-the-trainer was completed and programs may begin their education for RSI. It was reminded that the skill and procedure couldn't be utilized until it has been adopted in the regulations.

Base Station Physician Education - Dr. Waxler

The Video has been completed and was viewed at the meeting. It will be required for new medical command physicians and nurses that relay for the MICU. There will be a regulation that will require everyone within six months to train all of his or her staff. The guidebook which will accompany the video is still under development and should be available in the near future.

Other Business - Dr. Gluckman

UMDNJ is offering a HAZMAT/WMD course for Emergency Department staff. Any interested Hospitals should contact him at Gluckmwa@umdnj.edu. This is a ten-hour class and is free to all hospitals. They even provide the food during training.

Medications - Dr. Nevins

Dr. Nevins stood in for Dr. Lahita. SL NTG via metered dose aerosol is no longer available in the spray format. The metered dose pump is not as precise in the dosage as the aerosol spray it replaced.



NEW JERSEY
Many Faces. One Family.

A motion was also unanimously accepted to remove the NTG IV administration restriction. OEMS will remove the restriction of IV Nitroglycerin in the next draft of the regulations. IV Nitroglycerin cannot be used on MICUs until adopted in the regulations.

Standing Orders - Dr. DesRochers

New protocols are going to be reviewed by the committee in the next couple of weeks and will be presented at the next Council meeting. The Pediatric Standing Orders and Recommended Communication Failure Protocols were distributed for review.

Legislative - Mr. Hogan

A letter expressing opposition to bill A924 allowing Fire Department to have ALS units has been sent by Dr. Sol Nevins to Susan Way in OEMS and Gary S. Carter from the NJHA. A meeting has also been arranged with the NJHA to dissuade their support for this bill.

EMS Council - Dr. Pruden

The Council will be participating with the NJHA to finalize the "A Full House" hospital diversion guidelines. The Council has also added a Communication sub-committee to the table with formal representation. This meeting is always the Wednesday after the MICU Advisory Council Meeting and important information is discussed during this meeting. Anyone with EMS interest should attend this meeting.

JEMStar Helicopter - Dr. Hummel

No report.

OEMS - Ms. Way

We have applied for a Trauma needs assessment grant from the Federal Government through EMS for Children. The grant will be completed with the assistance of a group of stakeholders, including the EMS Council. The group will complete a needs assessment with a questionnaire and develop a plan of action for improvements of the trauma system in New Jersey. This assessment will be due back to the Feds in December 2001. We are anticipating using some of the money from this grant to begin the funding for the much needed Trauma Registry.

We are also in the process of looking at different software vendors to implement a statewide diversion/bypass status through the Internet. We hope to pilot the selected software in the near future.

The regulations should be leaving our office within two weeks and it will then go through the DHSS and legal review process. We are hoping for Register publication mid winter.

New OEMS staff members were introduced: Traci Anderson, Bill Dougan, and Joann Graziani. It was also announced that Jim Mondoro has resigned his position in OEMS and we wish him the best in his endeavors. Karen Halupke has been recovering rapidly and should be returning from her surgical leave within the next couple of weeks.

Education - Mr. Dinetz

A thank you was extended to Jim for his assistance over the years with the National Registry testing process. Robert Clawson will be assuming Mr. Mondoro's testing responsibilities. Saturday's paramedic exam went very well.

All ALS education, testing, and certification questions should be addressed to Robert Clawson in OEMS.

In April 2003, the NJ Safety Council will be holding its annual Safety Expo in Atlantic City and will allow an ALS education track for the first time. Mr. Dinetz stated that they are allowing us to participate and it is something that the MICU Advisory Council should

consider participating. If you have any ideas, please contact Bob Dinetz. The Atlantic EMS Council will be having an Educator's Conference in October 2002.

The next meeting of the Training Fund is later in the month. An invitation was extended to anyone who wanted to attend.

Paramedic Program Admin - Mr. Hogan

The League of Municipalities is coming up in November. The Paramedic Association will once again sponsor a booth with the New Jersey State First Aid Council and educate the public on the HCFA rulemaking and how it will affect local and State EMS systems.

A lot of hospitals are starting to understand the HIPPA act and it has become harder to obtain diagnosis of patients treated by MICU.

Base RVU was increased from \$170.00 to \$250.00.

The Paramedic Association has been working with the New Jersey Hospital Association to bring them up to speed with the change HCFA rulemaking.

Other Business –

Dr. Joseph Hummel- There seems to be a lot of concern over how the disciplinary actions are posted on the OEMS Website. There was discussion on this topic and Dr. Nevins agreed to put together a committee to work together with OEMS and find a solution that will allow OEMS to post information that is needed and create standards for the website enforcement page.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:00.

Website Committee:

Dr. Hummel- Chairperson
Rick Butler
Tom Viglis
Anne Marie Wertz
Karen Perla
Mary Daley
Marty Hogan
Dave Schmid
Michael Ulichny
Darcy Saunders
Susan Way
Chuck McSweeney

2002 Dates

March 11, 2002
June 10, 2002
September 16, 2002
December 9, 2002